



United States Department of Agriculture
National Agricultural Statistics Service



News Release

Cooperating with the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Pennsylvania's August Crop Forecast

HARRISBURG, PA, August 12, 2011 --- Based on August 1, 2011 forecasts for yield and production, the **Keystone State's** farmers expect to produce more winter wheat than last year. Production is expected to be below last year for barley, oats, corn for grain, soybeans, dry alfalfa hay, and other dry hay according to the Pennsylvania Field Office of USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS).

Winter wheat acres harvested totaled 180,000, which is 30,000 acres more than last year. The winter wheat yield as of August 1 is estimated at 55 bushels per acre, down 2 bushels per acre from the July 1 forecast, and down 4 bushels per acre from the final yield for 2010. The resulting winter wheat production of 9.90 million bushels is 12 percent above last year.

Barley acreage for harvest, at 50,000, is 5,000 acres more than 2010. Barley yield is forecast at 60 bushels per acre, down 5 bushels per acre from the July 1 forecast, and 15 bushels per acre below the final yield for 2010. Barley production is expected to be 3.0 million bushels, 11 percent below last year's production.

Oats acreage for harvest, at 55,000, is down 25,000 acres from a year ago. Based on crop conditions as of August 1, the oat yield is forecast at 51 bushels per acre, which is down 2 bushels per acre from the July 1 forecast, and down 8 bushels per acre from last year's final yield. The resulting oat production of 2.81 million bushels would be 41 percent below last year.

Corn acreage to be harvested for grain at 930,000, is 20,000 acres more than 2010. Based on crop conditions as of August 1, corn yield is forecast at 112 bushels per acre, which is 16 bushels per acre below both the July 1 forecast and last year's final yield. If realized, the corn for grain production would be 104.2 million bushels, which is 11 percent less than last year.

Soybean acreage for harvest is set at 475,000, down 20,000 acres from last year. The expected yield, based on August 1 conditions, is 37 bushels per acre, down 5 bushels from both the July 1 forecast, and from 2010. Production is set at 17.6 million bushels, 15 percent below last year.

Alfalfa acreage harvested for dry hay is estimated at 450,000, down 50,000 acres from 2010. As of August 1, yield is forecast at 2.70 tons per acre, up 0.10 ton per acre from both the July 1 forecast and from last year's final yield. The resulting production, at 1.22 million tons, would be 7 percent below last year.

All other hay acres harvested for dry hay is estimated at 1,000,000, unchanged from last year. The expected yield as of August 1 of 2.00 tons per acre is down 0.1 ton per acre from both the July 1 forecast and last year's final yield. Total production, at 2.0 million tons, is down 5 percent from 2010.

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United States: Winter wheat production is forecast at 1.50 billion bushels, up slightly from last month and up 1 percent from 2010. The U.S. yield is forecast at 46.3 bushels per acre, up 0.1 bushel from last month, but down 0.5 bushels from last year. The area expected to be harvested for grain totals 32.3 million acres, unchanged from last month, but up 2 percent from last year.

Barley production for 2011 is forecast at 168 million bushels, down 3 percent from the July forecast and 7 percent from 2010. Based on conditions as of August 1, the average yield for the U.S. is forecast at 70.4 bushels per acre, up 0.8 bushel from July, but 2.7 bushels below last year's record high yield. Area harvested for grain or seed, at 2.39 million acres, is down 4 percent from the previous forecast and down 3 percent from 2010. If realized, this will be the smallest harvested area since 1881.

Oat production is forecast at 57.5 million bushels, 2 percent above the July 1 forecast, but down 29 percent from 2010. If realized, this will be the lowest production on record, surpassing the previous record low set last year. Based on conditions as of August 1, the yield is forecast at 61.6 bushels per acre, up 1.1 bushel from last month's forecast, but down 2.7 bushels from 2010. Growers expect to harvest 934,000 acres for grain or seed, unchanged from the previous forecast, but down 26 percent from last year. If realized, this will be the smallest harvested area on record, also surpassing the previous record low set last year.

Corn production is forecast at 12.9 billion bushels, up 4 percent from 2010. If realized, this will be the third largest production total on record for the United States. Based on conditions as of August 1, yields are expected to average 153.0 bushels per acre, up 0.2 bushel from 2010, and the fourth highest yield on record. Acreage planted for all purposes is estimated at 92.3 million acres, unchanged from the June estimate. Area harvested for grain is forecast at 84.4 million acres, down less than 1 percent from June, but up 4 percent from 2010.

Soybean production is forecast at 3.06 billion bushels, down 8 percent from last year. Based on August 1 conditions, yields are expected to average 41.4 bushels per acre, down 2.1 bushels from last year. Area for harvest in the U.S. is forecast at 73.8 million acres, down less than 1 percent from June and down 4 percent from 2010. Planted area for the nation is estimated at 75.0 million acres, down fractionally from June.

Production of alfalfa and alfalfa mixtures for dry hay is forecast at 65.0 million tons, down 4 percent from last year. Based on August 1 conditions, yields are expected to average 3.36 tons per acre, down 0.04 ton from last year. Harvested area is forecast at 19.3 million acres, down 3 percent from the previous year's acreage.

Production of all other dry hay for 2011 is forecast at 67.0 million tons, down 14 percent from last year. Based on August 1 conditions, yields are expected to average 1.75 tons per acre, down 0.20 ton from last year. Harvested area is forecast at 38.3 million acres, down 4 percent from 2010.